Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

DOCUMENTS

The following letters show the uncertainty existing as to the Territorial Government's rights over certain lands occupied by Indians with whom no treaties had been made. The dates are less than five years after the close of the Indian wars throughout the Territory and no doubt there was still need of much caution. The letters are among the manuscripts rescued from the garret of the old Territorial Capitol.

Letter From Captain Maloney

Fort Chehalis, Grays Harbor, W. T., February 21, 1861.

Gov. McGill

Sir:

I have the honor to request to know If commissioners have a right to grant Lesince to sell liquors in this part of the Territory, it being still Indian country. The Gov says so in his message My reason for asking the Gov. There are some white men here who are constantly introducing Liquor and sell it to the Indians but are very careful of being caught I am endeavoring to put a stop to it and have pretty much done it There is one man here of the name of Williams who is going to Olympia to obtain a Lesince and if granted it will Defy the Military Commander of doing his duty in putting a stop to this Traffic. it should never be allowed to be sold in this part of the country and until the Indian titles to their Lands are relinquished. Will the Gov give me his views on the Subject.

I am Sir Resptfully

Your obedient svnt

M. MALONEY

Capt 4 Infy

Comy. Fort

Reply From Acting Governor McGill

Territory of Washington

Executive Office

Olympia, March 2, 1861.

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 21st. ulto. requiring my opinion as to the right of the County Commissioners to grant licenses for the sale of spirituous liquors in that part of the Territory west of the Cascade Mountains, in which the Indian title has not yet been extinguished.